(b) The steps taken include launching of servant verification drive and neighbourhood watch scheme in different areas of Delhi, strengtheing of patrolling system, close surveillanee over the activities of criminals released from jail and educating the public to instal home safety devices like door chains, magic eye, etc.

(c) 22,966 cases of theft including burglary were reported in Delhi during 1996 and 9,220 persons were arrested in connection with these thefts.

RDX Recovered in South Delhi

504. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 10 kg RDX was recovered from a village in South Delhi called 'Khirkee' and some people arrested;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to check the import of illegal arms, ammunition, RDXs, drugs and the lacuna in our system that helps all such imports/ sneaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One of the persons arrested in this connection is reported to have revealed in the course of investigation that the explosive was provided by a benchman of "Daud Ibrahim" for the purpose of causing explosions in Delhi on the occasion of the Republic Day, 1997.

(c) The measures taken by the Delhi Police to curb such activities in Delhi include close cordination with the Central and State Intelligence agencies; checking suspected guest houses/hide-outs; strict watch on foreigner tourist camps; larger deployment of spotters/watchers; verification of new tenants; checking of suspects vehicles; display of photographs of known terrorists at public places and soliciting greater public cooperation.

Alarming Increase in Naxalite Military and Insurgency Activities in the Country

505. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an alarming growth of Naxalities/Milistry/Insurgency in various parts of the country;

(b) if so,the details thereof by standard norms of assessment for the last 3 years, year-wise and area-wise with reasons therefore;

(c) the details of the recent high level review of the volatile situation undertaken and action plan worked out both short-term and long-term to deal with the problem effectively; and

(d) the present status of the proposals initiated by Government in this regard and details of assistance provided to the States and the proposals pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) There has been an increase in the violence perpetrated by the various naxalite groups in Andhra Pradesh in the last few years. In Bihar, though the number of violent incidents by naxalite groups decreased appreciably in 1996, the intensity of violence continued to register a rising trend over the last three years. Maharashtra and Orissa have been witnessing a fluctuating trend of naxalite violence during the last three years. The rise in naxalite violence is primarily attributable to the persiting confrontationist activities of Andhra Pradesh based Peoples' War Group. The recent years witnessed an increase in targetted attacks by left extremists like attacks on security forces, police informers, Government properties etc.

The insurgency/militancy in North East also witnessed marginal increase during the year 1996 as compared to the previous two years. In Punjab, since the installation of elected Government in 1992, the State has witnessed a steady decline in terrrorist actions. Progressive improvement in the situation in Jammu